

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literature is a permanent expression in words of some thoughts or feeling or idea about life and the world. Literature is also the writing or the study of books, valued as works of art (drama, fiction, essay, poetry, biography, contrasted with technical books and journalism). The main generic of literature today is poetry, drama and the novel.

There are some ways to express ideas, especially in a literary work. There is a literary work that brings us to the world of dreams and takes us away from reality. Most human in social life communicating with others are looking for relationship. When communication is going well between each other in a relationship, people will look for one basic need of human being that is affection.

Affection is a disposition or rare state of mind or body that is often associated with a feeling or type of love. It has given rise to a number of branches of philosophy and psychology concerning emotion, disease, influence, and state of being. "Affection" is popularly used to denote a feeling or type of love, amounting to more than goodwill or friendship.

"Affection is defined as feeling warmth and fondness toward someone, which can be manifested through affectionate communication, involving verbal and non-verbal messages that communicate feelings of fondness, support, and love." (Floyd, 2006: 47)

The expression of affection is anything that could be said to or about the other persons that cause them to feel encouraged, loved, or validated. This included, but is not limited to, the obvious statement “I love you”. Expression of affection is actually one realization of certain social communication and it closely related to speech acts in which the speakers perform the act through his utterance. In the other hand, affection is expression of a person’s feelings towards someone that had previously been limited to written letters, phone calls, or in person.

Related to the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the affection expression in the romantic novel, such as *The Notebook* novel. *The Notebook* is a 1996 romantic novel by American novelist Nicholas Sparks, based on a true story. The novel was later adapted into a popular film of the same name, in 2004. This novel is a romantic and sensational novel. This was Nicholas Sparks' first published novel. It was the third written after *The Passing* and *The Royal Murders*, which he did not publish. He wrote it over a period of six months in 1994. *The Notebook* was a hardcover best seller for more than a year. In interviews, Sparks said he was inspired to write the novel by the grandparents of his wife, who had been married for more than 60 years when he met them. In *The Notebook*, he tried to express the long romantic love of that couple.

The Notebook novel consists of 12 chapters inside it. This novel told on two levels, the first is the story a man, Noah Calhoun reads from the notebook to a woman, Allie Nelson. *The Notebook* novel tells how Noah and

Allie met, fell in love, lost each other, and then found each other again. The second is the present day when Noah and Allie have grown old and live together. The end of their love is tragically altered by Allie's Alzheimer's diagnosis, but even that has no power over their love.

The novel begins with Noah Calhoun, an old man, reading to a woman in a nursing home. He tells her the following story: Noah, 31, returns from World War II to his town of New Bern, North Carolina. He completes restoring a plantation house, after his father's death. Meanwhile Allie, 29, sees the house in the news paper and opts to pay him a visit. They are meeting, again, after a 14-years separation, which followed their summer romance when her family was visiting the town. They were separated by social class, as she was the daughter of a wealthy family, and he worked as a laborer in a lumberyard. They have dinner together and talk about their lives and the past. Noah had written letters to her for one year after their breakup, but she realizes that her mother hid the letters so that Allie concludes that Noah had forgotten about her. At the end of the night, Noah invites Allie to come back the next day and she decides to see him again. During this time, her fiancé, Lon Hammond, tries to reach her at the hotel. When Allie does not respond to his calls, he begins to worry.

The next day, Noah takes Allie on a canoe ride in a small lake where swans and geese swim. On their way back, they are trapped in a storm and end up soaked. When they back to his house, they talk again about how important they were to each other, and how their feelings have not changed.

In the next morning, Allie's mother comes and gives Allie the letters from Noah that she hid in one-years. When her mother leaves, Allie is torn and has to make a decision. She knows that she loves Noah, but she does not want to hurt Lon. Noah begs her to stay with him, but she decides to leave.

The man stops reading the story at this point, and tells the reader that he is reading to his wife, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease and does not be familiar with him. He clarifies that he is also ill, battling a third cancer, and suffering heart disease, kidney failure, and severe arthritis in his hands. He resumes reading the story and describing their life together: her career as a noted painter, their children, growing old together, and finally the diagnosis of Alzheimer's. He had changed the names in the story to protect her, but he is Noah and she is Allie. They walk together and Allie, although she does not recognize him, says she might feel something for him.

The night when they dinner together. Referring the story, she says that she thinks Allie chose Noah. Recognizing her husband, she tells him that she loves him. They embrace and talk, but after almost four hours, Allie fades. She begins to panic and hallucinate. She forgets who Noah again. A week later, after he had a stroke and recovered, Noah goes to Allie's room at night to see her because he missed her so much. She remembered who he was, despite the Alzheimer's, and says that she had missed Noah too.

The Notebook novel is a fascinating novel. There are some reasons why the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel. Firstly, *The Notebook* presents the story of first love, which turns into true loves. Noah and Allie

fall for each other one summer, but they come from different worlds where their love is forbidden, then Allie engaged to Lon, and also when Allie was suffering from Alzheimer's, Noah never turned away from Allie and kept waiting for her until she was back to him again. It is a classic tale of love lost and regained after many years, and is a truly romantic and touching story. This is an amazing book that captures your attention and keeps guessing what will happen next.

The second reason is the style of *The Notebook* uses detail that makes readers imagine everything as if we were there. Sparks focuses on characters' thoughts and feelings. The third reason is because of this novel must be romantic and popular novel and also the film. It shows that on October 1995, Park secured a \$1 million advance for the book from the Time Warner Book Group, and the novel was published in October 1996. It was on *The New York Times Best Seller list* in its first week of release.

Relating to all description above, the researcher uses a Psychoanalytic approach, where the structure of the personality in psychoanalytic theory is threefold. Here the writer focuses on the major character's affections for his girlfriends that will become his wife. Literature as an artwork has a close relationship with the psychoanalysis. Feelings, thought and attitude of some character in this novel are part of psychology, where the major character of this novel shows a lot of affections to his wife that is infected by Alzheimer's disease.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested in carrying out a study under the title **AFFECTION REFLECTED IN *THE NOTEBOOK* NOVEL (1996) BY NICHOLAS SPARKS: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

To prove the original of this research, the researcher wants to present the previous researcher that deal with this object research and the analysis of *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks (1996). The first is from Andina Dwi Kanti (2011) by her research paper: **“Book Review of *The Notebook* Written by Nicholas Sparks”**. The second researcher’s observation was already done by Yuli Andria Fajarini (2015) by her research paper: **“Devotion in Nicholas Sparks’ *The Notebook* (1996): An Individual Psychological Approach”**.

The differences between the researcher and the two previous studies are the theme and the perspective. The first previous study focused on the review from *The Notebook* novel that elaborates the moral lessons from this book and also to find out the weakness and excess of the novel. The second is sites that the main characters in this novel have a devotion feeling. In this research, the researcher wants to conduct a study on Nicholas Sparks’ novel based on psychoanalytic approach. The researcher focuses on the affection in *The Notebook* novel. The similarity of this research is the use of *The Notebook* novel (1996) as the data source.

C. Problem Statement

Concerning the idea which has been explained in the previous background of the study, there is one single problem that arises in this study: “How is Noah Calhoun’s affection reflected in Nicholas Sparks’ *The Notebook* novel?”

D. Limitation of the Study

In this study, the researcher would analyze the affection’s of Noah Calhoun as the major character which appears in *The Notebook* novel (1996) by Nicholas Sparks using a psychoanalytic approach.

E. Objective of the Study

Dealing with the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the novel by Nicholas sparks “*The Notebook*” based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the affection reflected in “*The Notebook*” novel by Nicholas Sparks based on psychoanalytic approach.

F. Benefit of the study

By analyzing *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks, there are two benefits that can be gained as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is supposed to give a new contribution and information, especially the literary studies on Nicholas Sparks' *The Notebook* novel. This study is also expected to develop the larger body of knowledge, particularly structural elements and psychoanalytic approach on *The Notebook* novel.

2. Practical Benefit

The study helps the researcher to enrich her knowledge dealing with structural elements and psychoanalytic approach. This study also gives deeper understanding in literary fields as the reference to another researcher in analyzing *The Notebook* novel using different perspective.

G. Research Method

In this research the researcher used the qualitative method to understand the novel. There are five elements in this research that should be taken into account in analyzing *The Notebook* (1996) novel as follows:

1. Type of the Study

In analyzing Nicholas Sparks' *The Notebook*, the researcher would used the qualitative research in the form of literary work, because the writer intents to identify affection. Then, the steps of conducting this qualitative study are (1) determining the object of the study, (2)

determining of the source of the data, (3) determining the method of data collection, and (4) determining the technique of data analysis.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks which is published in 1996. It is analyzed by using a psychoanalytic approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

In this research, the researcher classifies the data source into two categories namely primary and second data sources.

a. Primary data

The primary data are the main data which consists of words, phrases, and sentences in *The Notebook* (1996) novel written by Nicholas sparks.

b. Secondary data

Secondary data sources are the supporting data which is obtained not from within *The Notebook* novel. The data are classified as number-two-data that are gained from the biography of the author, some selected materials and references which relate to the study.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The collected data would be interpreted and analyze in detail through psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud. The methods of the collecting data in this research are follows:

- a. Reading the novels repeatedly.
- b. Reading some other resources related to the novel.
- c. Taking notes of important information in primary and secondary data.
- d. Arranging the related data based on its classification
- e. Arranging the data based on psychoanalysis approach
- f. Drawing the conclusion to get the last result.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analysis data, the researcher used descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The steps of technique of the data analysis are compiled as follows:

- a. Analyzing the structural elements of the novel. Focus would be paid on the structural analysis of the novel.
- b. Trying to decide the psychoanalytic approach of literary work
- c. Making discussion of the finding
- d. Making conclusion

H. Research Paper Organization

The research organization is conducted to help the readers in understanding the research easier. This research consists of five chapters as follows:

The first chapter is introduction which consists of background of the study, literary review, problem statement, objectives of the study, limitation of the study, the benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization. Chapter II deals with Underlying Theory it covers with the notion of psychoanalytic approach, major principle of psychoanalytic approach, structural elements of the novel, and theoretical application. Chapter III is about the structural analysis which consists of (1) the structural elements of *The Notebook* (1996) novel; it covers the narrative elements of the novel such as character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme; (2) Discussion. Chapter IV is the analysis of psychoanalytic approach of *The Notebook* (1996) novel. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion of the research.